



Washington State Senate

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Senator Joseph Zarelli
18th Legislative District

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May 21, 2009

General Motors
P.O. Box 33170
Detroit, MI 48232-5170

Dear General Motors Corp.,

We support the efforts being made by the Woodland Chamber of Commerce and others to encourage General Motors to continue the relationship it has had with Lewis River Motors for more than 65 years. This long-successful franchise is an outstanding community partner, and the idea that its future may be in jeopardy is disappointing.

Lewis River Motors is a landmark business, prominently located adjacent to the West Coast's primary interstate. Not only is it a convenient source of vehicles and service for the more than 600,000 residents of Cowlitz and Clark counties, Lewis River Motors is also a stable employer with 32 full-time employees who are very active in the community. We are concerned that cutting jobs of those 32 who are employed by this GM dealership will only result in fewer cars sold – something that would further *adversely* affect GM.

You will find Lewis River Motors employees supporting the Woodland Chamber of Commerce, the Woodland Rotary, the local Moose Lodge, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, area school booster clubs, little leagues, soccer clubs, and future business clubs at the county fairs, golf sponsorships, and car club cruise-ins. It is a very active supporter of Medical Teams International and other non-profit organizations.

Besides providing the "Main Street" jobs that are so important to the local economy, Lewis River Motors is a significant source of revenue for the state through the business and sales taxes and fees its retail activity generates. These dollars flow back into the area in the form of programs and services.

During the recent legislative session we often discussed how the economic troubles affecting our nation and state are consumer-driven, and so the way out of this situation also will be consumer-driven. It is important to support local businesses which give consumers the choices they need. Lewis River Motors is a local business which has survived for many decades on the strength of its ability to meet the needs of consumers, and we hope GM will see fit to allow that to continue.

We, therefore, respectfully request that you keep this dealership open – for the benefit of your company and the benefit of our community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. Zarelli".

Senator Joseph Zarelli
18th Legislative District

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ed Orcutt".

Representative Ed Orcutt
18th Legislative District

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jaime Herrera".

Representative Jaime Herrera
18th Legislative District

Cc: Representative Orcutt, 18th Legislative District
Representative Herrera, 18th Legislative District
Woodland Chamber of Commerce
Eric Schei, Lewis River Motors